

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 97-407-T - ORDER NO. 98-418

JUNE 5, 1998

IN RE: Application of Lange Moving Systems, Inc.,)	ORDER
1055 Market Road, Columbia, SC 29201, for)	GRANTING
a Class E Certificate of Public Convenience)	AUTHORITY
and Necessity.)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the application of Lange Moving Systems, Inc. (Lange or the Company) for a Class E Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to transport commodities as follows:

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AS DEFINED IN R. 103-210(1):

Statewide with the exception of Oconee, Cherokee, Abbeville and McCormick Counties.

The Commission's Executive Director required the Company to publish a Notice of Filing in a newspaper of general circulation in the area in which service is sought, one time. The Notice informed the public of ways to participate in the proceedings in this case before the Commission. The Company sent in an affidavit to show compliance with the directives of the Executive Director. No Protests or Petitions to Intervene were received.

A hearing was held on this matter on May 27, 1998 at 10:30 A.M. in the offices of the Commission, with the Honorable Guy Butler, Chairman, presiding. Lange was

represented by Bonnie D. Shealy, Esquire. Lange presented the testimony of Charles Lange and Geoffrey Graves. The Commission Staff presented no witnesses. The Staff was represented by F. David Butler, General Counsel.

Charles Lange testified that he has been in the moving business for eight years, that he has driven trucks for seven years, and that he has owned two trucks. He also testified that his wife has been in the business office of a moving business for twelve years, and has an accounting degree. At the present time, Lange states that he packs goods, sells, and does estimates for moves. Lange notes that he has invested \$5,000 in the business, and he primarily concentrates on interstate moves. Mr. Lange presently employs five persons on a full time basis. He states that he gets six to twelve calls a week with requests for local moves, and he expects this rate to increase. Lange testified that he plans to join the South Carolina Tariff Bureau and adopt its rates. He described the equipment that he now owns for use in the moving business. Lange also noted that even though he does not want to originate moves in Oconee, Cherokee, Abbeville, and McCormick Counties, he would like to terminate moves in those counties.

Geoffrey Graves, a real estate broker for Century 21-Bob Capes Realtors also testified. Graves stated that he has had trouble finding movers for his clients. Graves testified that Columbia is quite an active market for moves at the present time. Graves noted that there is demand for another mover like Lange at the present time.

Upon examination of the application, the representations contained therein, the documentary evidence attached thereto, and the testimony in the hearing, the Commission finds that Lange is fit, willing, and able to perform the service to the public

under the authority sought. We hold that, because of the ambiguity in the Applicant's advertisement, that Lange should be given authority to terminate moves in Oconee, Cherokee, Abbeville, and McCormick Counties, as well as originate and terminate moves in the rest of South Carolina. We also find that, based on the evidence in the case, the granting of the Certificate is required by the public convenience and necessity.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the Application for a Class E Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity be, and hereby is, approved for authority to transport household goods between points and places statewide in South Carolina, with the exception of Oconee, Cherokee, Abbeville, and McCormick Counties. Applicant may terminate moves in Oconee, Cherokee, Abbeville, and McCormick Counties.

2. That the Applicant file the proper license fees and other information required by S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-23-10 et. seq. (1976), as amended, and by R.103-100 through R.103-280 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations for Motor Carriers, S.C. Code Ann., Vol. 26 (1976), as amended, within sixty (60) days of the date of this Order, or within such additional time as may be authorized by the Commission.

3. That upon compliance with S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-23-10, et. seq. (1976), as amended, and the applicable provisions of R.103-100 through R.103-280 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations for Motor Carriers, S. C. Code Ann. Vol. 26 (1976), as amended, a certificate shall be issued to the Applicant authorizing the motor carrier services granted herein.

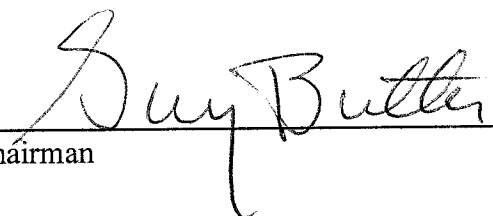
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4. That prior to compliance with such requirements and receipt of a certificate, the motor carrier services authorized herein may not be provided.

5. That this Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


 Executive Director

(SEAL)